

TRANSLATION

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference K-88Carbide	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/JP2005/003808	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 28.02.2005	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 27.02.2004
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G09F13/16, B32B27/00, E01F9/00, G02B5/128, G06K19/10, B62J39/00		
Applicant NIPPON CARBIDE KOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>6</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of _____ sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p>																										
<p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. I</td><td>Basis of the report</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. II</td><td>Priority</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. III</td><td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. IV</td><td>Lack of unity of invention</td></tr><tr><td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. V</td><td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. VI</td><td>Certain documents cited</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. VII</td><td>Certain defects in the international application</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/></td><td>Box No. VIII</td><td>Certain observations on the international application</td></tr></table>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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Date of submission of the demand		Date of completion of this report																								
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP		Authorized officer																								
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.																								

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Box No. I	Basis of the report
1.	<p>With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)</p> <p>2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on <i>(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)</i>:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the international application as originally filed/furnished</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the description:</p> <p>pages _____ as originally filed/furnished</p> <p>pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____</p> <p>pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the claims:</p> <p>nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished</p> <p>nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19</p> <p>nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____</p> <p>nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the drawings:</p> <p>sheets _____ as originally filed/furnished</p> <p>sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____</p> <p>sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.</p> <p>3. <input type="checkbox"/> The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the description, pages _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the claims, nos. _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the drawings, sheets/figs _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the sequence listing (<i>specify</i>): _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> any table(s) related to sequence listing (<i>specify</i>): _____</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the description, pages _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the claims, nos. _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the drawings, sheets/figs _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the sequence listing (<i>specify</i>): _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> any table(s) related to sequence listing (<i>specify</i>): _____</p>
<p>* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."</p>	

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	2-3, 5-9	YES
	Claims	1, 4	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-9	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)			
Document 1:	WO 2002/071376 A2 (3M Innovative Properties Co.), 12 September 2002, entire text and fig. 1 to 5 & AU 2002249919 A1 & BR 200206410 A & CN 1496540 A & EP 1225554 A1 & EP 1352379 A2 & JP 2004-519722 A & KR 2003071831 A & MX 2003006330 A1 & US 2002/142121 A1		
Document 2:	JP 2003-211572 A (Nippon Carbide Industries Co., Ltd.), 29 July 2003, entire text and fig. 1 to 12 (Family: none)		
Document 3:	WO 2002/103629 A1 (Nippon Carbide Industries Co., Ltd.), 27 December 2002, entire text and fig. 1 to 8 & AU 2002313225 A1 & BR 200210316 A & CN 1529871 A & EP 1411465 A1 & JP 2002-103629 A & MX 2003011245 A1 & TW 589582 A & US 2004/218273 A1 & ZA 200309620 A		
Document 4:	JP 2001-215304 A (Mitsui Chemicals, Inc.), 10 August 2001, entire text (Family: none)		
Document 5:	JP 10-55147 A (Hoan Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha), 24 February 1998, paragraph [0021] (Family: none)		
Document 6:	JP 2000-105806 A (Toshiba Chemical Corp.), 11		

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April 2000, entire text and fig. 1 to 3

(Family: none)

Document 7: JP 2003-308510 A (Toppan Printing Co., Ltd.),
31 October 2003, entire text and fig. 1 to 6
(Family: none)

Document 8: WO 2003/098545 A1 (Lintec Corp.), 27 November
2003, entire text and fig. 1 to 4 & JP 2003-
331248 A & EP 1505537 A1

The inventions set forth in claims 1 and 4 are also disclosed in document 1; therefore, the inventions in question lack novelty and do not involve an inventive step.

The inventions set forth in claims 2 to 3 do not involve an inventive step in the light of the inventions disclosed in document 1 and document 2 or 3.

Documents 2 and 3 disclose retroreflective resin sheets that are configured by disposing a specular reflection layer upon the bottom surfaces of the glass microbeads with a focal point forming layer interposed therebetween, and also disclose retroreflective resin sheets that are configured by disposing a specular reflection layer upon the surfaces on the reflecting sides of the microprisms.

Such being the case, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art to apply either the glass microspheres, the focal point forming layer and the specular reflection layer or the microprisms and the specular reflection layer that are disclosed in document 2 or document 3 in the retroreflective resin sheet disclosed in document 1.

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
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The invention set forth in claim 5 does not involve an inventive step in the light of the inventions disclosed in documents 1 and 4.

Document 4 presents the well-known materials that are set forth in claim 5 as examples of materials with superior optical characteristics, including superior light transmission characteristics, and further indicates that the materials in question are suitable for use in various optical components.

Such being the case, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art to configure the destruction layer of the invention disclosed in document 1 from the well-known material disclosed in document 4.

The invention set forth in claim 6 does not involve an inventive step in the light of the inventions disclosed in documents 1 and 5.

Document 5 (paragraph [0021]) discloses a configuration wherein a display device is adhered to an auxiliary member that has been mechanically affixed to the installation substrate.

Such being the case, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art to adhere the display device disclosed in document 1 to the auxiliary member disclosed in document 5.

The inventions set forth in claims 7 to 8 do not involve an inventive step in the light of the inventions disclosed in documents 1 to 2.

Document 2 (paragraph [0069]) describes imparting a function whereby electromagnetic waves are transmitted to the communication antenna of the RFID device that is disposed on the back surface of the invention by eliminating the section of the specular reflection layer

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where the communication antenna of the RFID device is disposed.

Such being the case, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art to apply the aforementioned feature disclosed in document 2 in the display device disclosed in document 1.

The invention set forth in claim 9 does not involve an inventive step in the light of the inventions disclosed in documents 1, 3 and 6 to 8.

Document 3 discloses a configuration wherein the communication antenna of the RFID device is formed from a specular reflection layer.

Meanwhile, RFID devices wherein the communication antenna device is destroyed when it is peeled away from the installation substrate are well known, as disclosed in documents 6 to 8.

Such being the case, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art to form the communication antenna of the RFID device disclosed in document 3 upon the specular reflection layer of the invention disclosed in document 1.